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QUESTION OF EQUITABLE REPRESENTATION ON AND INCREASE IN THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL AND RELATED MATTERS

Letter dated 19 October 1994 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

With regard to the statement made by the representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 14 October 1994 at the plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters (see A/49/PV.32), I have the honour to state the following.

The allegations made by the representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea are totally groundless; his statement was nothing but a malicious exercise in anti-Japanese propaganda. While I do not wish to dignify the specific allegations and innuendos made in that statement with a rebuttal, I would like to make the following points.

As the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, Mr. Yohei Kono, stated in his address to the General Assembly on 27 September 1994 (see A/49/PV.7), Japan is determined to conduct a proactive foreign policy that will enable it to contribute to the future well-being of humankind. It pursues this policy in the spirit of international cooperation and in keeping with the Constitution, which prohibits the use of force as a means of resolving international conflicts. Furthermore, remorseful of the suffering brought about by the Second World War on its neighbouring countries, Japan has pronounced on many occasions its determination to see that such a tragedy is never repeated.

Japan is committed to forging relations with the countries in Asia and the Pacific based on mutual trust and confidence. The cynical attempt by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to jeopardize those relations is utterly futile; it will not succeed.

Moreover, Japan cannot but point out that such an attitude on the part of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is detrimental to efforts to build constructive relations between our two countries.

Finally, Japan calls upon the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to participate more positively in the deliberations of the United Nations.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 33.

(Signed) Shunji MARUYAMA
Ambassador
Acting Permanent Representative
of Japan to the United Nations